

Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

NEA-09 AID-05 ARA-10 /046 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS: IPERNICK:MG

APPROVED BY S/PRS - ROBERT L. FUNSETH

S/S - JMEALUM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 241

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT:DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING, FEBRUARY 13

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS

NO. 18

FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY ACTING SPOKESMAN'S REPLIES TO
QUESTIONS AT TODAY'S BRIEFING:

1. TURKISH CYPRIOT ANNOUNCEMENT - FUNSETH STATED WE HAVE
SEEN DENKTASH'S PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT AND ARE STUDYING IT --
USG CONTINUES TO SUPPORT SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE, AND
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS -- AND THAT USG REMAINS
COMMITTED TO PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF CYPRUS PROBLEM AND WILL
CONTINUE TO WORK FOR THAT GOAL.

(AT 4:30 PM SPECIAL BRIEFING, FUNSETH MADE STATEMENT
REGRETTING TURKISH CYPRIOT ACTION, SINCE WE HAVE SOUGHT TO
DISCOURAGE UNILATERAL ACTIONS BY EITHER SIDE THAT WOULD
COMPLICATE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. U.S.
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WILL CONTINUE TO DO ITS UTMOST TO FURTHER NEGOTIATING

PROCESS. (REFTEL: TOSEC 225).

2. TURKISH NOTE -- RECENT TURKISH NOTE EXPRESSED SAME CONCERNS THAT GOT HAD COMMUNICATED TO NATO EARLIER THIS

WEEK -- ITS BELIEF THAT U.S. AID SUSPENSION IS INCONSISTENT WITH MUTUAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER NATO AND FEAR THAT TURKEY WILL FIND ITSELF UNABLE TO FULFILL ALL ITS NATO OBLIGATIONS UNLESS ITS MILITARY EQUIPMENT NEEDS ARE MET.

3. CONGRESSIONAL STUDY MISSION TO INDOCHINA -- ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH CONGRESS FOR A BIPARTISAN STUDY GROUP TO GO TO INDOCHINA. IDEA ORIGINATED OUT OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATURE AND HAS SUPPORT OF BOTH SFRC AND HFAC. THOSE IN SUPPORT REPRESENT BROAD SPECTRUM OF VIEWS ON THE QUESTION. COMPOSITION NOT YET COMPLETED.

4. AID TO EGYPT -- ISSUED AID PRESS RELEASE ON AGREEMENT SECRETARY SIGNED WITH FAHMY THIS MORNING. STATED A BROAD RANGE OF COMMODITIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR EGYPTIAN IMPORT UNDER THE LOAN BUT EXPECT MAIN USE TO BE FOR INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY AND SPARES.

5. CONFIRMED SECRETARY'S MEETINGS WITH BITSIOS IN BONN ON SUNDAY AND WITH SHAH IN ZURICH ON TUESDAY.

6. CUBAN RELEASE OF THREE AMERICANS -- DEPARTMENT WAS INFORMED THROUGH SWISS AUTHORITIES OF GOC'S INTENTION TO RELEASE THE THREE.

7. REVEREND OGLE -- DISCUSSIONS STILL GOING ON BETWEEN USG AND ROKG.

8. LATIN AMERICAN BACKGROUNDER -- ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS GAVE BACKGROUNDER ON LATIN AMERICAN AT 11:45 AM. QUESTIONS CENTERED ON CUBA, TRADE BILL AND OPEC PROBLEM, ECUADOR AND TUNA BOATS, PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS, AND NOMINATION OF HARRY SCHLAUDEMANN TO VENEZUELA. ARA IS SENDING FULL TEXT SEPTEL.
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